



FIRE CREW FIREFIGHTING TRAINING

Procedures Handbook 4200

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

TOPIC: AIR DROP SAFETY

TIME FRAME: 0:30

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level I

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: Given a written quiz

Behavior: The student will be confirm a knowledge of the safety considerations and procedures when working in or near retardant drop zones

Standard: With a minimum 70% accuracy

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Writing board with markers/erasers
- Appropriate audio visual equipment and screen
- Slides/overhead transparencies for this lesson
- Student Information Sheets 4204.4-1 and 4204.4-2
- Topic Quiz

REFERENCES:

- CDF Aviation Management Handbook 8300
- CDF Fire Protection Training Handbook4300
- CDF Training Procedures Handbook 4000

PREPARATION:

The major causes of injury resulting from low air drops are being thrown against rocks or trees or being struck by flying debris. As a fire crew member, you must know how to remain safe when working around firefighting aircraft.



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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>I. TERMINOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. AirtankerB. Fire retardantC. Air dropsD. Dry runE. Vortex turbulence <p>II. GROUND PERSONNEL IN DROP ZONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Should be warned when drops are going to be made<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Fire Captain may be in radio contact with Air Attack2. When a dry run or a high pass is made over a portion of the fire, it usually indicates, a drop will be made in one to three minutes3. Usually no dry runs are made if previous drops have been made in the areaB. Strong gusts of wind should be expected just after the aircraft passes<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Vortex Turbulence<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) High velocity wind that comes down off the wings of an airplane, or from the rotors of a helicopter, that can cause turbulence and wind up to 25 miles per hour and have an erratic effect on the fire's behavior2. Can cause erratic fire behavior like flare ups3. Can cause spot fires	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">4. Causes horizontal whirlwinds with velocities of 25 mph or moreC. Low air drops can<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Throw a person to the ground or into solid objects2. Uproot trees or break out tops and limbs3. Toss tools, rocks and other debris about4. Retardant may not be mixed thoroughly<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) A low drop destroyed a BLM engine and seriously injured two firefightersD. Safety <p>NOTE: Student Information Sheet 4204.4-1, Air Drop Precautions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. If you are in the drop zone<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Move out of the target area, if there is timeb) Stay away from power linesc) Stay away from trees2. If there is no time to move out of the area<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Never stand up in the path of an air drop <p>NOTE: Student Information Sheet 4204.4-2, The Proper Position for an air Drop</p>	<p>Display graphic 4204.4-2</p>



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PRESENTATION

APPLICATION

- b) Lie down on your stomach facing incoming airtanker and hold tool to side



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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">c) Helmet and goggles ond) Spread legs apart and dig your toes in for better stabilitye) Hold helmet on tightly with one handf) With other hand, hold tool firmly, at side, arm's length away from body <p>3. After drop has been made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Check yourself and others for injuriesb) Wipe off your hand tools, especially the handles, and glovesc) Watch your step<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Move back into your work area, quickly2) Most retardants are very slippery	<p>Have students demonstrate procedures</p> <p>Administer Topic Quiz</p>

NOTE: Explain the necessity of securing the fire after a drop



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SUMMARY:

Airtankers dropping retardant can cause serious injuries to fire fighting personnel on the ground. Retardants are slippery and can make a drop area hazardous. Firefighters must know how to work safely in areas where air drops are occurring.

EVALUATION:

The student will complete a written quiz at a time determined by the instructor..

ASSIGNMENT:

Review your notes and Student Information Sheets in preparation for the upcoming quiz. Study for the next session..